IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method of treating or preventing suppressing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising:

D-cysteinolic acid represented by Formula I, as an active ingredient:

Formula I:

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a cosmetic composition.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a food composition.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A method of treating or preventing suppressing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising a material selected from the group consisting of sea lettuce and an extract from sea lettuce as an active ingredient.

Reply to Office Action of June 7, 2004

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 21, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 21, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a cosmetic composition.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 21, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a food composition.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A method of treating or preventing suppressing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising an extract from sea lettuce obtained with hot water at a temperature of 50-70°C, as an active ingredient.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 25, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 25, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a cosmetic composition.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 25, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a food composition.

Claim 29 (Canceled).

Application No. 240292US0CONT Reply to Office Action of June 7, 2004

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A method of treating or preventing suppressing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising at least one material selected from the group consisting of D-cysteinolic acid, represented by Formula I:

sea lettuce, and an extract from sea lettuce, as an active ingredient.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 17, 21, 25 and 30 have each been amended by replacing "preventing" with -- suppressing--, as supported in the specification at, *inter alia*, page 3, line 17. Claim 25 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claim 29 therein; Claim 29 has been canceled.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 17-28 and 30 are now pending in the application.